

RemarksA. Period For Reply

A shortened statutory period for reply was set to expire three months from the mailing date of the outstanding Office Action of October 10, 2003.

B. Status

The Office Action of October 10, 2003 was a non-final action.

C. Disposition of Claims

Claims 15-17, 20-21, 25, 27, 32-33, 35-36, 38, 43-46, and 49-50 are pending.

D. Application Papers

The drawings that were filed on October 17, 2001 (with the filing of this case) were accepted by the Examiner. This is appreciated.

E. Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

This case does not claim domestic or foreign priority.

F. Attachments

Applicants filed two PTO-1499 forms with the filing of this case. Both of these forms have been signed by the Examiner and all of the references have been initialed. This is appreciated.

G. The Office Action of October 10, 2003

In section 1 of the Office Action, the indicated allowability of claim 39 was withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference to Webinger.

In section 2 of the Office Action, 35 U.S.C. 102 was set out.

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In section 3 of the Office Action, claim 39 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. as being anticipated by Webinger. This rejection is respectfully traversed. However, to expedite prosecution of the application, claim 39 has been canceled.

In section 4 of the Office Action, claims 15-17, 20, 21, 25, 27, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 43-46, 49, and 50 were allowed. This is very much appreciated.

In section 5 of the Office Action, it was stated that the prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent.

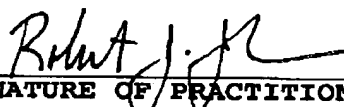
In section 6 of the Office Action, contact information with the Patent Office was set out.

H. Summary

Allowance of claims 15-17, 20-21, 25, 27, 32-33, 35-36, 38, 43-46, and 49-50 is respectfully requested.

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SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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